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Vessel Inspections		

1. PURPOSE/SCOPE

The purpose of this vessel inspection protocol is to coordinate vessel inspection activities to maximize the effectiveness of available Department of Ecology ("Ecology") and the Thirteenth USCG District ("USCG") resources devoted to vessel oil spill prevention. This protocol is also expected to leverage resources by bringing the diverse expertise of USCG and Ecology inspectors together to achieve safer vessel operations, while avoiding undue duplication of effort.

2. AUTHORITY/REFERENCES

Memorandum of Agreement on Oil Pollution Prevention and Response between the Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District and the State of Washington executed May 25, 2001, Section V- Prevention of Oil Spills:

Ecology

Statutes

RCW 88.40	Transportation of Petroleum Products – Financial Responsibility
RCW 88.46	Vessel Oil Spill Prevention and Response

Regulations

WAC 317-10	Vessel Contingency Plans and Response Contractor Standards
WAC 317-31	Cargo and Passenger Vessels – Substantial Risk
WAC 317-40	Bunkering Operations
WAC 317-50	Financial Responsibility for Small tank Barges and Oil Spill Response Barges

Documents/Forms

- Bunker Operations Monitoring Report (ECY 050-29)
- Preliminary Boarding Report (ECY 050-31)
- Tanker Boarding Checklist (ECY 050-35)
- Tank Barge Boarding Checklist (ECY 050-36)
- Fishing Vessel Boarding Checklist (ECY 050-37)
- Cargo and Passenger Vessel Boarding Checklist (ECY 050-38)
- Notification Drill Checklist (ECY 050-50)
- Tank Barge – Tow Vessel Company Audit Checklist (ECY 070-62)
- Waste Oil Discharge Checklist (ECY xxx-xx [under development])

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Statutes

46 USC Part B	Inspections and Regulation of Vessels
46 USC Part C	Load Line of Vessels
46 USC Part E	Merchant Seaman Licenses, Certificates, and Documents
46 USC Part F	Manning of Vessels
46 USC Part J	Measurement of Vessels

Regulations

46 CFR Subchapter C	Uninspected Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter D	Tank Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter E	Load Lines
46 CFR Subchapter F	Marine Engineering
46 CFR Subchapter G	Documentation and Measurement of Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter I	Cargo and Miscellaneous Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter J	Electrical Engineering
46 CFR Subchapter K	Small Passenger Vessels carrying more than 150 passengers or with overnight accommodations for more than 49 passengers
46 CFR Subchapter L	Offshore Supply Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter H	Passenger Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter Q	Equipment, Construction, and Materials: Specifications and Approvals
46 CFR Subchapter N	Dangerous Cargoes
46 CFR Subchapter O	Certain Bulk Dangerous Cargoes
46 CFR Subchapter R	Nautical Schools
46 CFR Subchapter S	Subdivision and Stability
46 CFR Subchapter T	Small Passenger Vessels (under 100 gross tons)
46 CFR Subchapter U	Oceanographic Research Vessels
46 CFR Subchapter V	Marine Occupational Safety and Health Standards Subpart B- Commercial Diving Operations
46 CFR Subchapter W	Lifesaving Appliances and Arrangements

International Conventions (not an exhaustive list)

International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL)
 International Life-Saving Appliance Code
 International Conference on Load Lines

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International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping
for Seafarers (STCW)

International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention #147

Documents/Forms

CG-840 B	Barge Inspection Book
CG-840 T	T-Boat Inspection Book
CG-840 K	K-Boat Inspection Book
CG-840 OSV	Offshore Supply Vessel Inspection Book
CG-840 DD	Drydock Inspection and Underwater Survey Book
CG-840-HI	Hull Inspection Book
CG-840 MI	Machinery Inspection Book
CG-840 TS	Tankship Inspection Book
CG-840 ACP FV	Alternate Compliance Program Freight Vessel Examination Book
CG-840 ACP TS (chem./gas)	Alternate Compliance Program Tankship (chemical/gas) Examination Book
CG-840 ACP TS (oil)	Alternate Compliance Program Tankship (oil) Examination Book
CG-840 FV	Foreign Freight Vessel Examination Book
CG-840 LOC	Foreign Chemical, Gas & Natural Gas Tank Vessel Examination Book
CG-840-TVE	Foreign Tank Vessel Examination Book
CG-840 CV1	Foreign Passenger Vessel Annual Examination Book (vls pre 25May80)
CG-840 CV2	Foreign Passenger Vessel Annual Examination Book (vls post 25May80)
CG-840-CV3	Foreign Passenger Vessel Quarterly Examination Book

3. EFFECTIVE DATE/POINTS OF CONTACT

This protocol will become effective upon signature of both parties.

The following persons will serve as points of contact for questions concerning this protocol and its implementation:

Ecology

HQ, Spills

Prevention Section Manager, Spills Program

Phone: (360) 407-7465

Fax: (360) 407-7288

Mailing Address: Washington Department of Ecology, Spills Program,
P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600

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Puget Sound Field Office

Supervisor, PSFO

Phone: (206) 389-2438

Fax: (206) 587-5196

Mailing Address: Puget Sound Field Office, 1011 SW Klickitat Way, Suite 211,
Seattle, WA 98134

Columbia River Field Office

Supervisor, CRFO

Phone: (503) 229-6800

Fax: (503) 229-6954

Mailing Address: Columbia River Field Office, 811 SW Sixth Ave., 8th Floor,
Portland, OR 97204

USCG

13th District

Chief, Compliance and Investigations Branch

Phone: (206) 220-7224

Fax: (206) 220-7225

Mailing Address: Commander, Thirteenth Coast Guard District (mc), 915
Second Avenue, Room 3506, Seattle, WA 98174

MSO Portland

Chief, Inspection Department

Phone: (503) 240-9372

Fax: (503) 240-9369

Mailing Address: USCG, MSO, 6767 N. Basin Ave., Portland, OR 97217

MSO Puget Sound

Chief, Prevention Department

Phone: (206) 217-6184

Fax: (206) 217-6199

Mailing Address: USCG, MSO Puget Sound, 1519 Alaskan Way S., Seattle,
WA 98134-1192

4. POLICIES

- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to follow the policies and procedures listed in this protocol when conducting vessel inspections.

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- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to coordinate vessel inspections to increase effectiveness and avoid duplication of effort to the maximum extent possible.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology that documents shared with Ecology will be done pursuant to the Disclosure of Records protocol.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to share any significant non-compliance violations observed on any vessel.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to share vessel inspection results regularly.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to share information related to vessel safety and spill prevention.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to regularly review the results of vessel inspections to identify any preventive measures that need to be addressed to further enhance the protection of the Washington State marine environment.
- It is the policy of the USCG and Ecology to provide training and familiarization to ensure consistency in application of applicable federal and state regulations.
- Tank Vessels: The USCG conducts port state control inspections of all tank vessels operating in Washington waters in accordance with Coast Guard policies and procedures. In addition, the USCG conducts flag state inspections of US-flag tankers and tank barges. Ecology conducts consensual inspections of tankers and tank barges enrolled in the Voluntary Best Achievable Protection (VBAP) Program and the Exceptional Compliance Program (ECOPRO).
- Cargo and Passenger Vessels: The USCG conducts port state control inspections of all cargo and passenger vessels operating in Washington waters in accordance with Coast Guard policies and procedures. In addition, the USCG conducts flag state inspections of US-flag cargo and passenger vessels. Ecology conducts substantial risk inspections of cargo and passenger vessels, 300 gross tons and larger, identified through its vessel risk screening system and supplemental information from other marine safety agencies. Ecology also conducts inspections of Washington State Ferries and other roll/roll off car ferries operating in Washington waters biennially, using a tailored substantial risk checklist. Vessels may be determined to pose a substantial risk if they have serious SOLAS, MARPOL, STCW violations, or if they have a significant number of violations of the Accepted Industry Standards peculiar to Washington waters.

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- Fishing Vessels: The USCG conducts voluntary in-port flag state examinations of fishing vessels and issues decals to those vessels that pass the examination. Coast Guard vessels on fisheries patrols are less likely to conduct underway safety inspections of fishing vessels with current decals. Ecology conducts substantial risk inspections of fishing vessels, 300 gross tons and larger, that are based on Accepted Industry Standards peculiar to Washington waters.
- Other Vessel Inspections: In addition to those inspections cited above, the USCG conducts a wide variety of flag state inspections of US-flag commercial vessels, including examinations of uninspected commercial vessels to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. Ecology conducts notification drills to ensure vessels are capable of activating spill response organizations and notifying government agencies in the event of an oil spill.

5. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Frequency of Communication

- A. Ecology will immediately inform the USCG of any significant federal violations observed during vessel inspections.
- B. Ecology will inform the cognizant MSO promptly and the USCG will inform Ecology promptly of any situation involving a vessel that may pose significant threat to the public health and safety, or the environment.

USCG Task Detail

The District 13 Compliance Branch Chief will oversee the following tasks:

- A. Review inspection reports provided by Ecology and provide feedback to Ecology as needed.
- B. Provide findings of non-compliance and any related vessel information to assist Ecology in conducting state enforcement actions.
- C. Coordinate enforcement actions with Ecology for vessels that are jointly regulated by the USCG and Ecology.


Ecology Task Detail

The Prevention Section Manager will oversee the following tasks:

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- A. Review inspection reports provided by the USCG and provide feedback to the USCG as needed.
- B. Provide findings of non-compliance and any related vessel information to assist the USCG in conducting federal enforcement actions.
- C. Coordinate enforcement actions with the USCG for vessels that are jointly regulated by the USCG and Ecology.

6. APPROVAL


M. S. BOOTHE
United States Coast Guard
Thirteenth Coast Guard District
Chief, Marine Safety Division


STAN NORMAN
Washington State Department of Ecology
Acting Spills Program Manager

DATE: 30 June 2003

DATE: 06/30/03